THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) No, Sir, The extraction of gas and supply to consumers of gas is being done in accordance with the policies of the Government. However, the Petroleum Ministry has filed a Writ Petition in the Supreme Court against the Reliance Natural Resources Limited (RNRL) and Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) to protect interest of the Government and public at large as the implication of Bombay High Court judgment has the potential of giving effect to the private MOU between the two companies and thereby ignoring the gas utilization policy and pricing policy of the Government which Government has approved in terms of its rights and obligation under the Production Sharing Contract (PSC).

Existing standard of cow milk

2881. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:
SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the existing standards for cow milk are 3.5 per cent fat and 8.5 per cent Solid Not Fat (SNF) under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act (PFA);

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Indian Dairy Association (IDA), Kerala chapter has made recommendation to the Central and State Government for lowering the SNF valued under the PFA to 8.3 per cent as the average SNF of cow milk is below 8.4 per cent due to massive cross breeding of cows with high yielding ones; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has informed that no such recommendation from the India Dairy Association (IDA), Kerala Chapter has been received for lowering the SNF value for cow milk under Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Rules 1955 to 8.3 per cent. However, a proposal was received from the Government of Kerala for lowering the SNF content of cow milk for the State of Kerala from 8.5% to 8.2% in January, 1999 which was examined by the Milk and Milk Products Sub-Committee of Central Committee for Food Standards (CCFS), which recommended that there is no case to amend the specification of cow milk.

Hiring of drilling rigs by ONGC

2882. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) is likely to use RIL's idle rigs as reported in the media;

(b) if so, the reasons for borrowing the drilling rigs from a private oil company;